



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION  
**COOPERATIVE MONTH**  
OCTOBER 2008

**WHEREAS**, through the cooperative form of business, Americans from every walk of life and every economic condition participate in our free enterprise system; and

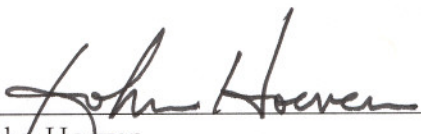
**WHEREAS**, the lives of more than 130 million Americans are improved by more than 21,000 cooperatives that operate in virtually every industry, including agriculture, child care, energy, financial services, food retail and distribution, housing, healthcare, insurance and telecommunications, and together generate nearly \$230 billion in annual economic activity; and

**WHEREAS**, through cooperatives, people achieve together what they could not accomplish alone, meeting their common social, cultural and economic aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota's more than 400 cooperatives produce significant income, employment and revenue for the state, and function as engines of economic growth for local communities by employing more than 11,000 North Dakotans and generating more than \$6 billion in total business activity; and

**WHEREAS**, North Dakota citizens are encouraged to recognize the value of cooperatives and the important contributions they make to our state's economy and to enhancing the opportunity and quality of life in our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2008, **COOPERATIVE MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

  
John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State